

## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION GEORGIA WEEK FOR THE ANIMALS

WHEREAS: The 8th annual Georgia Week for the Animals raises awareness about animal protection and responsible care for pets. Every day, animals work and live alongside humans and provide inestimable companionship to individuals around the state and across our nation; and

WHEREAS: This week brings together animal shelters, rescue groups, educational institutions, humane organizations, and other stakeholders from around the state to host events that help save the lives of animals and promote the importance of proper health care for pets; and

WHEREAS: Assistance animals offer individuals the ability to address and potentially overcome disability-related limitations. They are devoted partners and companions whose service helps to ensure a guardian's overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS: The State of Georgia wishes to promote animal rescue and adoption, as well as the responsible stewardship of all animals. In conjunction with local law enforcement and state agencies, the State of Georgia vigorously investigates and prosecutes crimes against animals; and

WHEREAS: During the Georgia Week for the Animals, lives of companion animals across the state will be saved through numerous adoption events, animal shelter awareness initiatives, spay-neuter opportunities, and low-cost pet vaccination clinics; and

WHEREAS: During this week, supporting organizations will bring READ dogs to libraries to offer assistance to youth who benefit from time with these special therapy animals and other organizations that will take therapy animals to hospitals and assisted living homes to bring joy to patients; and

Organizations including Animal World USA advocate assistance for animals by uniting communities and raising awareness about the importance of adopting pets from shelters, conservation of wildlife, and good stewardship of pets; and

WHEREAS: During the Georgia Week for the Animals, we celebrate the joy, service, and love that animals bring to our lives; now

I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim November 24 - December 2, 2018, as GEORGIA WEEK FOR THE ANIMALS and encourage Georgia citizens to support local efforts to help homeless animals, celebrate our state's wildlife, and recommit to responsible pet ownership.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this  $7^{th}$  day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.

S. N. C. E. C. III.

WHEREAS:

THEREFORE:

ATTEST

CHIEF OF STAFF